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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 30 MARCH 1949

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Soviet MVD officials who visited the Anhaltisches Serum-Institut Dessau (ASID) to investigate the deaths of Dr. Schmidt and the wife of Dr. Weidenmüller from anthrax are extremely worried because they feel experiments on anthrax may be associated with biological warfare and fear possible German sabotage in this work in the Russian Zone.
2. Intensive investigations have been carried out by the NKVD into the security precautions undertaken by ASID when handling biological strains. Only the two veterinary surgeons who visited the ASID after the fatalities have been informed about the work on anthrax.

(Comment: The Soviets are interested in tularaemia and have inquired whether ASID possesses strains of the tularaemia bacteria.)

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